



# SOUTH CAROLINA



## SOUTH CAROLINA CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

Year Funded	Type of Program	Affiliation	Compliance with Public Law 102-515: Legislation and Regulations*	
			Authorizing legislation for a statewide registry:	Regulations in place for data reporting, confidentiality, and use:
1994 2000	Planning Enhancement	State Health Department	Yes	All

\*Source: NPCR Legislative Database, January 2001.

### Cancer Burden

Cancer is a devastating disease. According to the American Cancer Society, in 2001 an estimated 553,400 Americans will die of cancer, and approximately 1.3 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed. These estimates do not include in situ (preinvasive) cancer of any site except urinary bladder or approximately 1 million cases of nonmelanoma skin cancer to be diagnosed this year. In South Carolina, an estimated 18,800 new cancer cases will be diagnosed, and approximately 8,200 will die of this disease in 2001. South Carolina ranks 18th highest overall in cancer mortality rates among the 50 states and Washington, D.C.\*

### The NPCR

Cancer surveillance involves the systematic collection, analysis, and use of cancer data. Information derived through surveillance is critical for directing effective cancer prevention and control programs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's **National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR)**, authorized by Congress in 1992 through the Cancer Registries Amendment Act (Public Law 102-515), serves as the foundation of a national, comprehensive cancer control strategy. Statewide cancer registries provide critical data to help identify and monitor trends in cancer incidence and mortality over time; guide cancer control

planning and evaluation; help allocate health resources; and advance clinical, epidemiologic, and health services research.

Through the NPCR, CDC supports registries in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and three territories, representing 96% of the U.S. population.<sup>†</sup> Forty-five programs receive support to enhance existing registries; these have on-going cancer data-collection activities, policies and procedures for central registry operations in place, and core staff employed. Four programs receive support to plan and develop new registries; they are typically involved in laying the necessary groundwork for establishing a central, population-based registry.

With fiscal year 2001 appropriations of approximately \$36 million, CDC continues to support and enhance state cancer registries, and promotes appropriate uses of data. The CDC will also develop special research projects, such as studies of patterns of cancer care in specific populations and assessments of data for integration with geographic information systems.

### State Highlights

- The South Carolina Central Cancer Registry (SCCCR) was certified by the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries for completeness, timeliness, and quality of its 1997 data.

- The SCCCR is one of 11 registries participating in a special NPCR-supported childhood cancer project to design, implement, and evaluate a method to use data from a state population-based central registry to compute expected numbers of incident cancer cases in children. The registry will evaluate completeness of its data and of other existing pediatric cancer databases, such as the Children's Oncology Group, by performing data linkage.
- Incidence/mortality ratios were calculated by health districts of the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) to determine geographic patterns of case completeness for the cancer sites included in the South Carolina Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan.
- The SCCCR statistical datafile and cancer mortality file were used by the University of South Carolina (USC) School of Public Health Cancer Epidemiology class. County-specific cancer incidence and mortality rates by age, race, and gender were calculated. Standardized incidence ratios were used to determine differences between SC rates and those of the SEER program. The project provided helpful information for the SCCCR,

*Continued*

\*Source: CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, vital statistics data, underlying cause of death, 1993-1997.

<sup>†</sup>A map of the participating NPCR programs can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/npcr/statecon.htm>.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA, CONTINUED**

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stenghtened the collaboration  
between the SC DHEC and the USC,  
and provided a unique learning  
experience for the class.

### **Contact Information**

Susan Bolick-Aldrich, MSPH, CTR  
Program Director  
South Carolina Department of Health and  
Environmental Control  
PHSIS/SCCCR  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 898-3626  
Fax (803) 898-3599  
bolicks@columb20.dhec.state.sc.us